

## Recognising letter patterns

The meaning of a word can sometimes be understood by knowing what language it came from originally. Greek is written in a different alphabet from English, so words that come from Greek often use groups of letters that are not usually found in English.

For example, **chr-** is a typically Greek pattern. When we see that pattern, we know that words like **chrome**, **chrysanthemum**, **chronicle**, **chronology** came from the Greek.

<b>chrome</b>	from Greek for 'colour'
<b>chrysanthemum</b>	from Greek for 'gold'
<b>chronicle</b>	from Greek for 'time'
<b>chronology</b>	from Greek for 'time'

This helps us with the pronunciation of these words. They will be pronounced as if they began with a 'k' (like 'Christian', 'chorus', 'cholera' - other words that come from Greek). This is because they originally began with a Greek letter that does not exist in the English alphabet.

Some other words that use Greek letters not found in the English alphabet are:

<b>PS</b> (pronounced with a silent 'p')	<b>PH</b> (pronounced like 'f')
psyche	phone
psychology	pharmacy
psychiatrist	phantom

Have a go at adding other words to the table.